GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3279
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2017
USOF
Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether revenue is collected from different private telecom operators to maintain the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether BSNL is the main beneficiary of the fund;

(d) if so, the total fund made available to BSNL during the last three years;

(e) whether any private players have been able to meet the demand of providing subsidised fixed services in villages; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) The resources for meeting the Universal Service Obligation (USO) are generated through a Universal Access Levy (UAL) which is a percentage of the revenue earned by the operators under various licenses. The Universal Service Levy presently is 5% of the Adjusted Gross Revenue earned by all the operators. Revenue collected from different Private Telecom Operators to maintain the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) during last three years is enclosed as Annexure −A.

(c) & (d) Telecom infrastructure development schemes are being implemented through BSNL. Funds have been provided to BSNL towards implementation of such schemes in inaccessible, rural and remote areas for fulfilling the obligation of USOF. The details of the amount disbursed to BSNL during the last three years is given below:
<pre>
Sl. No. Year Amount (Rs. in crore)
1. 2013-14 1629.72
2. 2014-15 731.40
3. 2015-16 678.85
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(e) & (f) The subsidy amounts of Rs. 0.53 crore and Rs. 2.53 crore have been disbursed from USOF to M/s TATA and M/s RIL respectively during the last three years to meet the demand of providing subsidised fixed services in villages.

ANNEXURE 'A'

Revenue collected from different Private Telecom Operators to maintain the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) during last three year

Rs. in Crore
<pre>
Sl. No. Name of Private Telecom Operators 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16
1 Aircel Ltd 182.53 210.47 219.11
2 Bharti Group of Companies 1788.04 2037.53 2292.19
3 BPL Mobile Communications Ltd. 18.58 0.00 0.00
4 Dishnet Wireless Ltd 142.29 170.11 183.27
5 Idea Cellular Ltd 931.07 1098.35 1314.87
6 Reliance Group of Companies 434.56 378.87 329.18
7 Sistema Shyam Teleservices Ltd 47.14 57.16 63.34
8 Spice Communications Ltd 98.24 115.13 142.21
9 Tata Group of Companies 498.56 536.55 663.05
10 Unitech Wireless East Pvt. Ltd. 79.07 57.49 24.91
11 Videocon Telecommunications Ltd 6.62 8.45 6.20
12 Vodafone Group of Companies 1368.19 1554.91 1722.35

Total* 5594.89 6225.02 6960.68
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* Based on MIS Report as available in LF software as on date.

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